



Town of Tyngsborough Conservation Commission

25 Bryants Lane,
Tyngsborough, Massachusetts 01879-1003
Office: (978) 649-2300 x 119
Fax: (978) 649-2301

CONSERVATION COMMISSION POLICIES

The following policies of the Conservation Commission are designed to help clarify Commission procedures and preferences. Many projects may be questionable as to whether home owners and other applicants should file with the Commission. Applicants should contact the Conservation Agent for a site visit in order to make a determination. The decision on whether a project needs a filing is based upon the following considerations:

1. Type of resource area involved.
2. Distance from the project to the resource area.
3. Topography of the area leading to the resource area.
4. Types of equipment or products being used in the project.
5. Types of techniques being used in the project.
6. Amount of disturbance or fill used in the resource area or buffer zone.

Using these considerations, the agent may make a decision on small projects that have little or no impact to resource areas. The Conservation Agent will complete an "Agent Determination Form" and submit it to the Commission at the next scheduled Commission meeting. The Commission can endorse the Agent's recommendation or require the applicant to file either a Request for Determination of Applicability or Notice of Intent. The Agent may make a decision on the following types of projects:

1. Cutting woody vegetation
2. New lawns, sod, or loaming
3. New fence
4. Re-roofing
5. New siding, windows, decks, sheds, or small additions.
6. Planting of trees and shrubs
7. New wells
8. Deep holes for septic tests
9. Overhead utilities

The following projects should file as a minimum a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) with the Commission for projects within 100 feet of a resource area or 200 feet of a perennial stream:

1. Shoreline erosion control
2. Use of lawn services
3. All pools
4. New docks or rafts
5. New beach sand whether adding, replacing, or removing.
6. Repair of old septic systems or installation of new ones.
7. Connecting to sewer
8. Installation of underground utilities
9. Installation of new drainage including berms, swales, and riprap
10. Repair of existing dams or installation of new ones including water level management
11. Pest control and extermination including treatments for termites, ants, or wasps

In many cases a positive determination is likely for these projects. The applicant may want to consult with the Conservation Agent to determine whether filing a Notice of Intent directly would be more advantageous to the applicant.

In addition the Conservation Commission has the following policies:

1. Water Withdrawal: Water can be withdrawn from the following by residents for their personal use: Lake Massapoag, Lake Mascuppic, Lake Althea, Long Pond, Flints Pond, and the Merrimack River. Withdrawal from other bodies of water such as streams or brooks shall require a filing with the Commission. Businesses that wish to withdraw water from any resource in Tyngsborough must file with the Commission.

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